

African summit opens

ABUJA, Nigeria (R) — The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit opened in Nigeria on Monday with leaders seeking a new policy on ties with fast-changing South Africa. More than 80 presidents are attending the three-day summit in Abuja, Nigeria's future capital. They were joined by South African black leader Nelson Mandela, U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. Most of the 51 members of the OAU face acute political, economic and environmental problems. Nine presidents have left office since the last summit in Addis Ababa in 1990, the highest turnover in one year since the organisation was founded in 1968. But despite the spread of civil war and unrest across the continent, South Africa was the key issue as this year's summit started. Black African leaders are divided over the right approach to President F.W. de Klerk's reformist government in Pretoria. Many want to ease OAU sanctions against South Africa, hoping to speed up the reform process and cement closer ties with the continent's wealthiest nation. But others, led by Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe, say South Africa must remain isolated until full equality for the black majority is in sight.

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President Saddam protects Jews

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein protects the Jews of Baghdad despite vowed to burn half of Israel, says a leader of Israel's Iraqi Jewish community, Mordechai Ben-Porat, head of the Babylonian Jewish Heritage Centre, told Israeli radio on Monday. "The Jews of Baghdad have already for a number of years reported their situation is good with Saddam Hussein — that he looks after them, doesn't harm them, prevents clashes. The reports are that he looks after them," Ben-Porat said the Iraqi authorities have permitted Jews to leave the country since mid-May and five Jewish families arrived in Israel.

Fahd says he advised Saddam

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia's King Fahd has said he never wished on "brotherly Iraq" the suffering it went through in the Gulf war and its aftermath. "But God knows how much advice I gave the Iraqi president to avoid this catastrophe," the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) quoted him as saying at a military parade on Sunday marking the end of Prince Khaled bin Sultan's command of Arab forces in the anti-Iraq coalition. "We did not want for brotherly Iraq the hardship that took place, whether in the tough military days or these days in which the Iraqi people are suffering," the king said, referring to the six-week Gulf war and its aftermath.

Ethiopian premier kills himself

ROME (R) — A former Ethiopian acting premier sheltering in the Italian embassy in Addis Ababa has killed himself and three other senior fugitives have surrendered to the new authorities, an Italian official said on Monday. A foreign ministry spokesman said Haile Yemane, acting premier until May, had apparently shot himself in the embassy grounds where he and six other senior figures of Ethiopia's deposed Marxist regime had sought refuge.

Mao's widow killed herself

NEW YORK (AP) — A magazine reported Monday that the widow of Mao Tse-Tung, Jiang Qing, had hanged herself. Chinese government offices refused comment. Time magazine quoted Beijing sources as saying Jiang, 77, killed herself late last month at a suburban villa where she had been under house arrest since her conviction in 1980 for helping carry out the cultural revolution. The sources for the magazine report were not further identified.

Iran tells its Hajjis to behave

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian pilgrims in Saudi Arabia were told by their leader on Monday that they will be sent home immediately if they do anything to harm their country's image. Some 115,000 Iranians will make the annual haj to Mecca this month for the first time since 400 people, most of them Iranians, were killed in clashes with Saudi security forces during an Iranian-led demonstration in the holy city in 1987. The Iranian news agency IRNA said Mohammad Mohammadi Reyzeshi, Iran's top haj official, spoke to clerics accompanying pilgrims in Medina, the second of Saudi Arabia's two holy cities. He warned against actions "which may harm the image and prestige of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In case such conduct is observed the person responsible in whatever position will immediately be sent back."

Police, demonstrators clash in Algiers

ALGIERS (R) — Riot police and Muslim fundamentalists clashed in central Algiers on Monday in the first serious confrontation since the country's election campaign started. Helmeted police fired round after round of tear gas grenades and brought in water cannon to try to disperse the radicals.

Royal Court releases King's interview with Le Point, but no shift in Jordan's position is seen

King: Taboos and cliches should disappear in process

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Court yesterday released the text of an interview which His Majesty King Hussein gave to the French magazine Le Point on May 11, and informed sources said there was nothing in the interview that suggested any change in the Jordanian position on the question of Arab-Israeli talks to solve the Palestinian problem and the Middle East

conflict as a whole. In the interview, which was published in the magazine on June 1, the magazine quoted the King as expressing willingness for face-to-face talks with Israel. Israelis interpreted that as meaning that Jordan had come around to Israel's view that direct talks were the way to make peace, but the informed sources said it was incorrect to interpret

the King's remarks as breaking with the Arab view that negotiations should be through a Middle East peace conference.

"What the King said in the Le Point interview does not signal a change of policy," the informed sources said.

Following are major excerpts of questions and answers from the interview:

Q: From Your Majesty's discussions with the Americans what kind of final solution they are looking for?

A: I honestly cannot say what kind of "final solution." I don't like the term "final solution." However, there is a determination to move and try to resolve the problem. On the other hand,

(Continued on page 5)

Iraq ready to export oil

VIENNA, Austria (Agencies) — Iraq, barred from selling oil during the Gulf crisis, is pumping about 450,000 barrels of crude a day but could quickly double that once international sanctions are removed, its oil minister said Monday.

"As soon as they lift the ban, we will be ready to go ahead," Usama Abdul Razzaq Al Hitti, the nation's newly appointed oil minister, said.

Iraq, once a leading crude exporter, was prohibited from selling oil after invading neighbouring Kuwait last August.

Under a U.N. ceasefire resolution, the economic sanctions are to be eased gradually as Iraq fulfills such conditions as destroying its chemical and biological weapons.

Bush sent personal message last week to each of the leaders in the region in an attempt to keep Washington's Middle East peace initiative alive.

"In his letter, Bush suggested

how he thought differences could be overcome," Shamir said.

A participant at the parliamentary meeting quoted Shamir as saying Baker had taken a harder position during his visit last month on including the United Nations in a conference.

"Baker insisted on U.N. participation. On previous visits he didn't make an issue of it. Now he really demanded it," Shamir was quoted as saying.

Baker, in the region four times since March, has tried to bridge Israeli and Syrian differences over the role of the United Nations and the format of a proposed peace conference.

Israel opposes any role for the United Nations in a conference while Syria wants the U.N. to be present.

"We would be ready to deposit any agreements with the U.N. and ask for the U.N. to ratify them. The U.S. wants more than

that," Shamir was quoted as saying.

In Washington, presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said the letters, to the leaders of Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, delivered over the past few days, were similar.

"The letters didn't present a new plan. They commented on the progress that had been made so far," Fitzwater said.

"We think there has been progress," he added.

"The parties are still discussing this matter. There are indications of interest and support from all of the countries involved and we're still working it," Fitzwater said.

Fitzwater told reporters he wouldn't comment on the content of the letters to the Middle East leaders. But, he said, they all called for the graduation of students from Muta University's civilian wing.

What the universities ought to do, he said, is to focus attention on various problems facing the nation and help find solutions.

Prince Hassan congratulated the graduates and voiced appreciation to the university staff and those responsible for drawing up the university training program.

(Continued on page 5)

Bush urges Israel to accept U.N. role in peace talks

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said on Monday that President George Bush had personally urged Israel to compromise and accept U.S. views on Middle East peace talks.

Shamir spoke after a closed session of the parliamentary foreign affairs and defence committee at which he has reported to have said that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker last month had demanded a role for the United Nations in a Middle East peace conference.

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(Continued on page 5)

Syria pulls troops out of Gulf

NICOSIA, Cyprus (Agencies) — Syria has joined Egypt in pulling its troops out of the Gulf region, dealing another blow to the idea of an Arab regional security force. But it may be too soon to count it out completely.

Egypt started bringing home 36,000 soldiers from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait last month, just weeks after an agreement for Damascus and Cairo to provide military clout to a force funded by oil-rich Gulf Arab states.

The withdrawal of the Egyptians and the Syrians so soon after the highly touted agreement points to deep divisions over the structure of the security force.

Egyptian military sources said the Kuwaitis had indicated a clear preference for Western troops. U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney has agreed to maintain U.S. ground troops in the emirate

for an unspecified number of months to come.

The Saudis said they wanted only their own troops on their soil, at least for the time being.

Still, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has said he is prepared to send forces back to the region whenever they are needed.

And experts from the six Gulf Cooperation Council members, Egypt and Syria are to meet shortly in Riyadh to begin work on a detailed agreement. They will report to a foreign ministers meeting that will be held later in Kuwait.

"I suspect what is happening is that people are seeing signs of impatience in setting up a force," Middle East analyst Don Kerr said about the news Monday that the Syrians were going home.

On Monday, newspapers in Damascus reported on their front

pages a terse dispatch by the official Syrian Arab News Agency.

It said: "Yesterday the first batch of our armed forces that were charged to defend the territory of Saudi Arabia and liberate Kuwait returned to the homeland, according to a decision made to that effect."

There was no other official comment.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa told reporters on Monday he would visit Damascus later this week to discuss Gulf security and the Middle East peace process with his Syrian counterpart, Farouq Al Sharaa. He gave no further details.

The United States has begun setting up depots for stockpiling weapons in the Gulf in case of

(Continued on page 5)

Israelis raid PLO positions in South Lebanon; 3 killed

SIDON, Lebanon (Agencies) — Israeli warplanes destroyed a PLO military intelligence office in south Lebanon on Monday, killing two guerrillas and a woman civilian. The intelligence office was under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Kamal Midhat.

This plane fired rockets into the two-storey office for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's main stream PLO guerrilla faction in Mich-Mich refugee camp east of Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

Guerrillas, firing rifles into the air, at first cordoned off the PLO office, which was totally destroyed.

In Israel, an army communiqué said air force planes had attacked PLO positions east of Sidon used for launching attacks on Israel.

The sources in Lebanon said the attack killed two PLO fighters and a woman civilian and wounded seven fighters. The intelligence office was under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Kamal Midhat.

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The warplanes struck as the Syrian and Lebanese foreign ministers exchanged letters of ratification in Beirut putting a

wide-ranging cooperation treaty between the two neighbours into effect.

Israel has condemned the treaty as the annexation of Lebanon by Syria, which says the pact guarantees Lebanese independence while strengthening special ties between Beirut and Damascus.

The treaty says Lebanon and Syria will support each other on security issues and work to coordinate their foreign policies.

Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens has said Israel would not allow the pact to threaten the security of the Jewish state.

It was the 11th Israeli air raid into Lebanon this year.

(Continued on page 3)

Palestinian groups vow to stop feuds

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R)

Rival Palestinian groups appealed for unity in a joint leaflet on Monday, a day after they battled each other with guns in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

The clashes stemmed from Muslim fundamentalist anger at PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's endorsement of Palestinian contacts with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. Arafat condemned the fighting.

"We declare our rejection of all forms of differences and unruly behaviour which occurred from any party and against any one of us," said Monday's leaflet, signed by the PLO's Fatah movement and the Muslim fundamentalist Hamas.

Relatives and friends of Omar Al Kassem, a central committee member of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, visited his grave and held a rally in his memory.

The two groups are rivals for leadership of a 42-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"... We stand in the same trench in the face of the Zionist-colonialist occupation," the leaflet added.

Five other Palestinians were wounded in clashes in the northern West Bank town of Jenin, Arabs said.

When the girl finally appeared around 11:30 a.m. he immediately attacked her, stabbing her several times in the chest, the face and the back.

The attorney general at the criminal court in Amman, Mohammad Jaradat, said the accused admitted that he killed his cousin because she turned him down when he proposed.

Feeling let down, the accused decided to take revenge on the girl. He stole a large knife from a store in the camp and waited for the girl in front of her school, the attorney general said.

When the girl finally appeared around 11:30 a.m. he immediately attacked her, stabbing her several times in the chest, the face and the back.

(Continued on page 5)

2 women murdered

By Ahmad Kreishan

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Two women were wounded in Sunday's clash in Nablus, the West Bank's largest city and a hotbed of Palestinian nationalism. The intercommunal fighting was the most serious since the uprising began.

Palestinians in the West Bank held para-military memorial marches on Monday for a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation leader who died in an Israeli prison two years ago after 21 years of imprisonment.

The murders took

Algerian leader takes up fundamentalist challenge

ALGIERS (R) — Shaken by mass fundamentalist protests, campaigning for Algeria's first multiparty general elections moved into a third day Monday with the president warning he would not allow them to be delayed.

Intervening for the first time, President Chadli Benjedid told the nation Sunday: "The state and the government will take all legal steps to ensure that the right conditions and atmosphere" (are maintained).

The Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), which has called an indefinite strike and brought thousands of protesters onto city streets, appeared ready to ignore his warning and pursue its protests.

A FIS leader, Abdelkader Boukhamkam, said continued protests were the answer to Chadli's speech.

The demonstrations and strike

have increased divisions between FIS militants and opponents of their demand for an Islamic state and set the scene for more confrontations.

Veteran independence war leader Hocine Ait Ahmed, who heads the Socialist Forces Front (FFS), called Sunday for mass demonstrations on Thursday to counter those of the fundamentalists.

"We must save democracy to save Algeria," he said in a statement.

The Algerian newspaper, Le Quotidien D'Algérie, said Monday: "The homeland is in danger because democracy is in danger and it is there that the real jihad (holy war) is to be found."

The FIS says election laws favour the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), headed by Chadli who paved the way to end its 27-year monopoly of power

with reforms in 1989.

It called an indefinite strike last month to demand changes in the law and presidential elections also June 27.

Several hundred pro-FIS high school students, due to sit examinations June 9, marched through the capital Monday waving Islamic flags and demanding an Islamic state.

"Neither work nor school before Chadli goes," they shouted, as riot police accompanied them to May 1st square, one of the assembly points for FIS demonstrators.

On Sunday, in central Algiers, hundreds of riot police fired tear gas and used water cannon against thousands of protesters blocking the streets, dispersing them some two hours before Chadli's speech.

In the last two days, the strike and demonstrations have dominated



Chadli Benjedid

atated public discussion and newspapers.

The independent newspaper El Watan said Chadli's speech was aimed at "breaking a silence which was becoming worrying and was leading to all sorts of interpretation."

It said Chadli, without naming the FIS, had put total responsibility on the party for the troubles shaking the country.

Khamenei rules out ties with Washington

More than 340 candidates for Lebanese parliament

By Samia Nakhoul
Reuter

Beirut — Almost 350 hopefuls, ranging from veteran feudal warlords to political newcomers with scant chance of success, have put their names forward for appointment to 40 seats meant to breathe new life into Lebanon's parlance.

The Syrian-backed government contends that general elections to the 108-seat single chamber legislature cannot be held until the whole country is under state control, 30 foreign forces and private armies cannot influence the traditional power brokers.

In addition, feudal warlords and militia chiefs, civilians such as teachers, lawyers, engineers and doctors are standing.

Samir Geagea, head of the Christian Lebanese Forces (LF) militia, is notably absent from the warlords seeking a seat.

Geagea rejected the appointment of deputies on the grounds that it is undemocratic. But the LF has put up two candidates.

France, a traditional ally of the once-dominant Christian Maronite community, has implicitly criticised the appointment of deputies by calling last week for a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon before general elections.

Syria, which signed a wide-ranging cooperation treaty with Lebanon last month, says it would not interfere. But political sources expect many seats to be filled by its close allies.

"We know the appointment will take place anyway but we reject it because it is an insolent violation of the rights of people," said the LF's magazine Al Massira Saturday.

"We cannot but feel sorry for Lebanon...once the oasis for democracy and freedom," said Massira, adding that since the Lebanese army took control of much of the country last month then elections could be held.

Ethiopia's new leader blames old regime for economic chaos

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopia's provisional leader says they were impressed by Meles's stark summary of the crisis.

Many Ethiopians feel betrayed by 14 years of administration by Marxist military ruler Mengistu Haile Mariam which had sent the economy into a nose-dive.

Reports of fighting in the southeastern town of Harar Sunday — probably between advancing EPRDF fighters and remnants of the old government's army — dashed hopes for an early resumption of famine relief to more than one million people in the east, many of them Somalis.

The outgoing government left the country bankrupt, new interim leader Meles Zenawi said in a 15-minute television and radio broadcast Sunday night.

"The coffers are empty, the country has nothing to sustain it, even for a few days," he said in his first public speech in Addis Ababa since rebels of his Ethiopean People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) captured the capital last Tuesday.

Meles, 36, leader of the EPRDF, spoke as fears grew of a famine disaster in eastern areas with reports that fighting was preventing food aid from moving.

More than seven million people are threatened with starvation in Ethiopia this year because of drought and civil war in the impoverished Horn of Africa country.

Meles appealed for peace to allow his interim government to restore order and cautioned people against following "anti-peace elements" — a reference to anti-EPRDF demonstrations last week.

Meles said the EPRDF remained in control but he repeated assurances that an all-party conference would be held within a month to set up a transitional government.

He called on Ethiopians to be prepared for yet more austerity to help the new administration pull the country out of its economic quagmire.

Iraq says Bush's plan maintains Israel's power

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq Monday described U.S. President George Bush's initiative on halting the Middle East arms race as a plan to guarantee Israel's military superiority in the region.

In an editorial headlined "New proposals with old aims," the ruling Baath Party's daily newspaper Al Thawra said Bush wanted to impose an arms embargo on the Arabs without the removal of Israel's weapons of mass destruction.

Israel refuses to confirm or deny that it has nuclear arms, but international military sources say it possesses about 100 nuclear warheads and delivery missiles.

Some Arab analysts believe that Bush's arms control proposals would leave Israel's nuclear capability intact and enhance its military clout.

Al Thawra's editorial also re-

flected to U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney's announcement Friday that Washington was stockpiling weapons in Israel and had plans to pay more than 70 per cent of the cost of an Israeli anti-missile missile programme.

"Bush's plan and Cheney's policies coincide in their aims and results and both speak for an old American policy... guaranteeing the Zionist entity's strategic military superiority over the Arab countries altogether," the paper said.

Cheney said in Cairo Sunday

the prepositioning of U.S. arms and ammunition in Israel did not contradict Bush's arms control plan which calls for limiting the flow of conventional arms to the Middle East and introducing a freeze followed by a ban on acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

Cheney said in Cairo Sunday

Meguid starts post-crisis fence-mending mission

DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Abdul Meguid, the new secretary-general of the Arab League, arrived Monday in Saudi Arabia on a bid to end the rift in Arab ranks following the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

It was Meguid's first foreign trip since he was elected to head the 21-member league, headquartered in Cairo. Abdul Meguid was formerly Egypt's foreign minister for almost a decade.

Meguid came to the Gulf side

of Dhabrah at the start of his mission for a meeting with King Fahd.

He is expected to visit the other member states of the Gulf Coop-

eration Council (GCC) too. They are Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar.

Meguid was also planning to visit Arab capitals outside the Gulf region.

With the exception of the Kuwaitis, Gulf leaders have been indicating that the wounds could slowly be healed in the interest of solving pan-Arab issues such as the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Shortly after his arrival,

Meguid went into session with the six foreign ministers of the GCC alliance, who have been meeting since Sunday.

Most of the assets are in the

United States, Britain, Japan and Switzerland — a group which includes the two countries most opposed to easing the pressure on the Iraqi government.

A million tonnes of wheat for the next six months" a headline in the Arabic newspaper Al Qudsia said Sunday referring to talks with the Australian wheat board.

But the Australian deal depends on a third country releasing Iraqi assets worth \$155 million. Iraq has no assets in Australia.

In theory, U.N. member governments have been allowed since early May to unfreeze Iraqi funds to finance purchases of food, medicine and other goods for humanitarian purposes.

In practice, none have done so.

"It looks like they are all waiting for the first to move," a U.N. official said.

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Apart from reducing many Iraqi to subsistence, the sanctions are depriving Iraq of essential drugs for typhoid, of baby formula for infants and of chlorine to keep the water supplies pure in the major cities.

Relief organisations can bring in some amounts of these goods but only unfreezing Iraqi assets or allowing oil sales can generate enough funds to pay for everything that is needed.

The only good news for Iraqis this week was that the government had found \$15 million with which to buy vegetables from Jordan.

The vegetables, too expensive for many poor people to buy on the free market, would be distributed through government shops at the cheapest price possible, the semi-official newspaper Babil said Sunday.

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Investigation continues into biggest smuggling operation in eastern Jordanian desert

AMMAN (J.T.) — A spokesman for the Public Security Department (PSD) Monday said that investigation was continuing on the aborted smuggling of nearly 160 kilogrammes of hashish near the border with Iraq, Syria and Saudi Arabia, one day after the police announced busting the operation.

"We are still looking into the matter and cannot disclose where the hashish came from and where it was going," the spokesman said.

The PSD said Sunday that border police patrols aborted what was termed as the biggest smuggling operation yet in the eastern desert region of the Kingdom following a 40-kilometre chase in the desert and an exchange of fire with the smugglers.

Many nomadic tribes live in the uncharted area, a bane for smugglers, and often move between Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Syria to graze their cattle.

According to the same spokesman, customs officials in the eastern regions of the Kingdom stop-

ped smugglers bringing into the country 12,000 heads of sheep, for which they have to pay JD 144,000, and 50 tonnes of copper, for which they must pay JD 60,000 in duty and fines.

The spokesman again failed to say when these operations took place.

The spokesman said last week that the customs officials at the Ramtha border post seized the following illicit merchandise which they found in secret compartments of a number of vehicles entering the Kingdom: 4,640 kilogrammes of hashish, 50 grammes of heroin, 97,000 cigarette pills, 875 wrist watches. In addition, the spokesman said, the police at the Ramtha border post seized two other kilogrammes of heroin from another group of smugglers in the past week.

The spokesman did not disclose when the abortive operation took place.

In July last year, an army patrol shot dead four armed men when they tried to infiltrate into Jordanian territory from Syria.

1,980 crimes committed in April

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 1,980 small and major crimes were committed in Jordan during April 1991, registering 393 more than those committed in the same month of last year; 78.6 per cent of the crimes were discovered and handled by the police, according to a statistical bulletin issued by the Criminal Investigations Division at the Public Security Department (PSD) Monday.

Of these, the bulletin said, 1,609 crimes were committed by minors. The increase in the number of crimes over those of April 1990, the bulletin noted, were in thefts and mugging, while robberies accounted for nearly 33 per cent of the total number of crimes.

The bulletin noted that Amman witnessed the highest rate of crimes, accounting for 886, followed by Irbid with 316 and

Balqa Governorate with 137, the rest occurred in Karak, Maan, Zarqa, Badia, Ajaba, Tafileh, Mafrag and Madaba.

A total of 571 persons, including 13 women, 66 foreigners, mostly Egyptians, Filipinos, Sri Lankans, and Syrians, were involved in these robberies last April, the bulletin pointed out.

Nearly 29 per cent of those involved in the robberies were between 18 and 27, while nearly 25 per cent of the rest of the robberies were committed by unemployed persons, the bulletin added.

It said that the robbers had their eyes on cash money and jewellery, with very few stealing pieces of furniture and electrical appliances; fewer persons specialised in stealing animals and birds as well as auto spare parts.

Glass factory chief, workers give conflicting accounts to visiting minister

MAAN — Minister of Industry and Trade Ziad Faris Monday inspected the glass factory near Maan and heard the workers' complaints about the obstacles, which, they said, were responsible for the decline in production.

The minister first heard a general production report from the factory Director Farid Obeid who said that the factory produced nearly 60 tonnes of plain and tinted glass per day.

Mr. Obeid said last year's production registered a drop, reaching only 10,000 tonnes, largely due to outdated equipment used in production.

His views were countered by Khaled Zaher Shweiter, chairman of a workers' committee, who said the quality of glass declined due to the employment of sand instead of dolomite, with the results that the factory sustained JD 500,000 in losses.

Mr. Shweiter also said that production was brought to a halt for some time because of a series of faulty machines. He said that continued changes of plans by the supervisors and lack of cooperation at the glass factory and to

stop excesses, which, he said, might cause the total collapse of the glass factory on which 270 families depend for a living.

In contrast, Mr. Obeid made a statement last March, giving a bright picture about the conditions in the factory and noting that most the production was being marketed in Tunisia, Libya, Yemen, Egypt and Sudan, with Egypt importing up to 40 per cent of the total amounts of tinted glass.

Mr. Obeid, however, admitted that the factory sustained losses last year as a result of the losses of the Gulf markets and the embargo imposed on Iraq and Jordan, during the crisis, which prevented the factory from exporting products or importing raw materials.

According to Mr. Obeid's March statement, the factory made a JD 1.5 million profit in 1989, and this year was hope that it would make a bigger profit. But he said that the factory last year sold glass for an estimated JD 4 million, down from JD 5 million on average in the previous years.

UNDP continues support of programmes for the deaf

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Monday announced the completion of a project for the establishment and improvement of programmes for the deaf.

For the just completed project, UNDP brought Dr. Robert Moulton to Jordan to train a group of pre-school teachers of deaf children.

Previous projects included a sign language interpreter training programme and assistance in planning for a model pre-school for deaf children.

Dr. Moulton is the associate vice president for research and dean of graduate studies at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas. Dr. Moulton has been

working with programmes for the deaf since 1968 and has international deaf education experience in China and Mexico as well as Jordan.

Dr. Moulton arrived in Jordan on May 16 and has been busy training a group of 23 pre-school teachers of the deaf at the National Speech and Hearing Center.

Dr. Moulton explains that although pre-schools for the deaf are rare or non-existent in the Arab World, they are critical for language and academic development of deaf children. He notes that Al Ibtisam Model Pre-school for the Deaf, located at Al Raja School for the Deaf, has recently been constructed and will have its first class of pre-

school deaf children this fall.

Dr. Moulton said that thanks to the United Nations Development Programme and other cooperating agencies, programmes for the deaf in Amman have the potential to become models for the region.

Ms. Manal Hamzeh, director of the National Speech and Hearing Center, said that Dr. Moulton would propose in a meeting on June 4th in New York a five-year plan which will consist of teacher training programmes, deaf leadership programmes and interpreting training programmes, sign language documentation programmes and T.V. programmes produced by and for the deaf.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

- ★ Exhibition of etchings, lithographs and monoprints, by Ahmad Nawash and Yasser Dweik at Abdin Hameed Shoman Foundation (10 a.m. — 5 p.m.)
- ★ Exhibition of photographs by Bernard Gallet at the French Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.

Jordan Times Tel — 667171

Women activists could face Military Court

By Issam Qadmani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — At least 15 members of the former women federation in Jordan could be facing trial at the Military Court for holding illegal gatherings, creating public disturbance and uttering curses against a Ministry of Social Development committee entrusted with supervising new federation elections.

The new development, which is linked to a long-standing dispute between the federation members and the Ministry of Social Development, came about Monday when the prosecutor general insisted that the Court of Appeals refer the whole issue to the Military Court, which, he said, is the sole authority responsible for handling such issues.

The Court of First Instance, which earlier had dealt with the case of the 15 women, ruled that they were innocent and that such disturbance was expected in any election atmosphere. But the prosecutor general insisted that the case go to the Military Court which has not yet decided on any proceedings.

Former Minister of Social Development Abdul Majid Shrideh, who appointed the committee to supervise the federation's election, sued the 15 women for improper behaviour towards government employees and the First Instance Court examined the case in April this year.

Court officials here said that there was no word yet on whether the Court of Appeals would refer the case to the Military Court.

The members of the previous board of the women federation had earlier sent an appeal to Prime Minister Mudar Badran calling for the abrogation of the elections organised by the Ministry of Social Development through a specially appointed executive committee and claimed that those elections were illegal.

The women said that new elections should take place free of any influence now that the Higher Court of Justice had ruled on Jan. 27 that the previous elections, held on Aug. 27 of last year, were null and void.

The dispute involved secular and Islamic groups who have been fiercely competing for the domination of the women federation in Jordan.

The memorandum to the prime minister charged that the Ministry of Social Development and the executive committee it had appointed were delaying the implementation of the court's verdict in a bid to contest the by-laws of the federation and deprive independent members of their voting rights.

However, the ministry said in a letter published in Al Ra'a daily recently that the elections were only pending the settlement of certain administrative matters and that the elections would be held in due course.

Exhibition marks anniversaries

AMMAN (Petra) — As part of the Kingdom's celebrations of the Independence Day, the Army Day and the Great Arab Revolt anniversary, a comprehensive national book exhibition was opened Monday at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC).

The eleven-day exhibition displays publications by the Ministry of Culture and Youth in addition to publications by local publishing houses and Al Al Bayt Foundations.

The spokesman said that it was enlisting the assistance of govern-

Queen meets Arab-Americans in Washington

AMMAN (J.T.) — On the final leg of her working visit to the United States, Her Majesty Queen Noor met in Washington, D.C., with representatives of Arab-American organisations and exchanged views on ways to promote understanding between the Arab and American peoples and was briefed on their activities. The Queen also attended a reception by the Jordanian community in Washington, D.C., celebrating Jordan's Independence Day.

The Queen met with the heads and staff of a number of relief and aid organisations who serve in developing countries. The

Queen explained Jordan's and the region's difficult socio-economic circumstances in the wake of the Gulf war and thanked the task force for their assistance to Jordan and the evacuees, which included development, refugee and resettlement, assistance as well as disaster relief.

Queen Noor visited the American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA), the principal U.S. voluntary agency that provides humanitarian assistance to Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Lebanon and Jordan in the areas of agriculture, health

care, education and social development. The Queen explained the difficult conditions of Palestinians living under Israeli occupation and expressed appreciation for ANERA's role in alleviating the suffering of the Palestinians and in helping to upgrade their quality of life. ANERA's most

recent work in the West Bank has been with the Agricultural Marketing Information Centre in Amman, which will provide the West Bank and Gaza with market information related to the Arab World to help market their agricultural produce.

for food supplies. Other contributions include \$20 million per year to UNRWA.

"We are putting great emphasis on the development of human resources, for education and vocational training for the younger people," the ambassador said.

In the West Bank, a community centre was set up in response to a request related to the development of human resources. In order to attain economic and social development in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a Japanese-Palestinian fund was set up through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). "So far we donated \$7.1 million since 1988," Mr. Nonoyama said.

Japan recently donated \$700 million to Jordan as an aid package; some of the amount would be used for Jordanian and Palestinian returnees from the Gulf countries. Japan hopes to continue expanding ties in the economic, business, cultural and political domains. "We would like to help in solving the Middle East issue," the ambassador said.

Last week, Japan's Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama visited Iran, Egypt and Israel. The foreign minister urged the Israeli to comply with the Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and specifically urged the Israeli to withdraw from the occupied territories. The foreign minister also requested Israel to stop the Jewish settlements in the occupied territories and to take a more positive attitude towards solving the conflict.

Japan's stand vis-a-vis the Palestinian issue is that the problem should be solved on the basis of resolutions 242 and 338. Japan also supports the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Israelis raid PLO positions

(Continued from page 1)

Hostages

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara said Monday that Israel would help gain freedom for 12 Western hostages in Lebanon if it withdrew from south Lebanon and released Arab prisoners.

"The Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon would help," Shara told reporters when asked about prospects for freedom for the Western hostages, some of whom have been held for more than five years.

The Israeli release of the Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners who have been taken from Lebanon would also be of great importance," he added.

Shara was commenting after a ceremony in which Lebanon and Syria put into effect a treaty binding them closer together.

"Let everyone understand: those rejecting it (the accord) can't read history, geography and the treaty or turn evil to Lebanon and Syria," Shara said shortly before the Israeli raid.

Report says waste water from factories still contaminated

ZARQA (J.T.) — A certain percentage of water flowing out from factories and companies located within the Zarqa River basin and into the Zarqa River, that feeds the King Talal Dam, contains bacterial and chemical pollutants,

According to the spokesman, nine of the factories are already linked to the waste water treatment plants, some others pass on the waste water into a large pool where later the water evaporates and the residues treated, while others are found to be recycling the treated waste water for irrigation.

The stringent measures concerning control over the waste water followed an outcry by the Jordan Valley farmers who claimed they had sustained JD 60 million in damages to their crops.

gating trees.

The spokesman warned that the factories which continue to pursue their unorthodox ways of disposing of waste risk being closed down."

The stringent measures concerning control over the waste water followed an outcry by the Jordan Valley farmers who claimed they had sustained JD 60 million in damages to their crops.

Jordan to get 5m Kuwaiti dinars for development projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The Manama-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) has granted Jordan a five million Kuwaiti dinar loan to be channelled to the Industrial Development Bank (IDB) in Amman in order to help finance development projects in the Kingdom.

The terms of the loan agreement was signed by the IDB Director-General Taher Kanaan and the AFESD Director-General and board Chairman Abdul Latif Ahmad.

The agreement was also signed by Jordan's chargé d'affaires to Bahrain Hassan Juarez because the loan will be under guarantee from the Jordanian government.

The loan, which carries a 4.5



Jordanian Society for the Control of Environmental Pollution

Friedrich Naumann Foundation

INVITATION

To the general public on the occasion of "THE INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT DAY"

On June 5th, 1991 at 10:00 a.m. at the ROYAL CULTURAL CENTRE

"CLIMATE CHANGE"

Need for global partnership
Lectures and discussions (in Arabic)
ALL ARE WELCOME

Jordan Times

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Letters and trump cards

THE much publicised letters of U.S. President George Bush to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir ostensibly prodding them to accept U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's peace proposals may suggest that Washington views both Damascus and Tel Aviv as equally responsible for the stalemate in the peace process. On closer look, however, the Syrian position on the terms and conditions of the peace process is in no way comparable with Israel's. The Syrians, as indeed all the other Arab parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, call for assurances that the relevant U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 will be implemented at the end of the day. The Arab insistence that the U.N. has a place in the quest for a permanent and just settlement in the Middle East happens to correspond also with the wish of the international community and serves as added inducement to the parties to negotiate in good faith and on the basis of international legitimacy. When the European countries or Japan submit that they too want to be party to peace efforts in addition to the presence of the two superpowers, this request corresponds faithfully with the Arab posture. On the other side of the coin, the Israeli government seeks to divorce the proceedings related to the peace conference from the watchful eyes of the world in a bid to conceal it from the scrutiny of the community of nations. Tel Aviv's avowed aim of course is to get away with its own interpretation of Resolutions 242 and 338 by suggesting that the construction of these U.N. decisions is indeed up to the parties and not to the international community as reflected in 242 and 338.

Nevertheless the two-pronged U.S. strategy to target both Syria and Israel equally for a more active involvement in the peace process may be vindicated only if the contents of the two Bush letters are fundamentally different.

There is little that is known about the substance of the U.S. president's communication with the Syrian and Israeli leaders even though the ultimate aim in both situations is to prod both countries to move on with the search for peace in the area by allaying their respective fears and suspicions. What remains is to gauge how persuasive Mr. Bush has been in his new effort to salvage Mr. Baker's initiative from the dross and gloom that seem to await it. If the American president fails in this one then there will be little hope of resurrecting the secretary of state's efforts to resolve the Palestinian problem. What comes next is open to conjecture although there is a wide consensus that extremism on both sides of the fence will find in the defeat of peace efforts a very fertile climate for growth and proliferation. In turn all the talk about the new order in the region would become a mirage never to materialise or take root. In the final analysis what would make or break the chances of the new order is the degree to which Washington's clout could be translated into operational needs. As long as the strongest nation on earth keeps on hammering the point that it will not pressure Israel to accommodate the overwhelming yearning for peace in this part of the world, it would in effect forego its trump card before the hand is dealt to the parties.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'II Monday compared Washington's stand towards the Gulf crisis and the situation in Lebanon on the one hand and its attitude towards the Middle East issue on the other. The U.S. defence secretary has announced that Washington can only play the role of a mediator, and would never impose peace on the parties involved in the Middle East issue, said the paper. The paper noted that Washington did not exercise the role of a mediator in the Gulf and the Lebanese questions, but sent in troops to deal with the situation by itself although in both instances the United Nations Security Council had issued pertinent resolutions. In the Lebanese and the Gulf issues Washington sent its troops and took action to prevent the Arab countries from containing these issues but in the Middle East issue, the U.S. president sufficed himself with issuing one initiative after another without taking any practical step to end the conflict, the paper noted. By issuing his initiative to disarm the Middle East, President Bush hoped to find a way out of the present dilemma facing Washington caused by Israel's outright rejection of the Baker's plan, the paper noted. The paper also expressed the view that the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance is not only limited to maintaining Israel's military superiority over the Arab World, but rather to ensure Israel's continued expansionist policies in the Arab region. We have no doubt that the United States and its Western allies together with Israel are able to impose their unjust solution on the Arabs. But, the paper said, we dare ask whether such solution can contribute positively towards creating the so-called new world order which is supposed to be fair to all nations.

A columnist in Al Dostour daily discusses the question of factories which continue to dump waste and untreated water in the Zarqa river and at the same time escape retribution. Mohammad Daoud says that Jordan television two days ago presented a grim picture of the situation showing that most of the factories are not abiding by the public safety regulation concerning the disposal of waste and that the water flowing to the King Talal Dam continues to be polluted. The writer notes that the factories require more than three months in order to install proper equipment that can do the job and ensure proper treatment of the waste water; and for this reason, and as long as the contaminated water continues the flow towards the King Talal Dam, crops irrigated with the water are bound to continue to sustain damage no less that the damage sustained by crops in the winter season, the writer notes. He says that any delay in installing the proper treatment equipment can do harm to the national economy which largely depends on the agricultural sector. The writer calls on the government not only to help end this source of disaster, but also to refrain from issuing any licences for new factories before studying all the requirements of public health safety of any factory, and also urges the government to maintain strict control over the operating factories to reduce to a minimum the level of contamination to river water.

Government, journalists bear equal responsibility for poor media practices

By Waleed Sadi

HIS Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's keynote speech Thursday to the IPS Council on Information and Communication for International Development in Rome is a must reading to all those who take interest in journalism and journalistic practices especially in the Third World. It was a magnificent discourse on the role of the press and the qualifications of those who serve it. After arguing forcefully in support of a "New Order to Understanding" of Third World societies, Prince Hassan went on to spell out the heavy burdens that lie on the shoulders of journalists from these countries. Above all, the Crown Prince reminded Third World journalists, "we are not only Arabs and Jews, Muslims and Christians, Jordanians and Israelis. We are citizens of the same planetary ship, creatures who may have had a different past but who certainly share a common future."

It is in this very setting that journalists from the Arab and Muslim worlds need to conduct their mission. With this perspective in mind they must begin to reflect, analyse and pass judgments. Often peoples of the world, developed and underdeveloped, lose sight of these cardinal propositions which causes them to engage in quarrels and rivalries that are conceived in bigotry, and reduced to caricatures and stereotypes. And as home sapiens go on pursuing their short sighted and immediate goals unperturbed and unconscious of more sublime pursuits, greater and more profound issues loom in the horizon, the Crown Prince cautioned. Global warming, the loss of species, deforestation, future water supplies for ten billion people will surely dominate the agenda of the next century, the Crown Prince said. In the same vein, Prince Hassan warned against the spread of state-sponsored environmental terrorism as well as food and water terrorism, which he feels may threaten global security and stability at the turn of the century and beyond.

The Crown Prince also classified many Arab and Third World journalists as being

woefully inadequate especially in their coverage of domestic issues. Some of them, he asserted, tend to be little more than government propagandists, "afraid to bite the hand that feeds them."

"Some media bosses," Prince Hassan went on to say, "see their business only as a lucrative venture," while "others are power hungry aspirants to political elitism" seeking proximity to the centre of power.

These thought-provoking observations, no doubt require a fuller debate and discussion. For while one cannot always blame governments for all such ills in the profession of journalism in the Third World, one cannot concurrently absolve such governments from all responsibility in promoting such expediency in journalism. Many of the barons of journalism in the developing world were reared and nurtured by regimes that promoted undemocratic rule for decades on end. Only in a democratic setting and a free environment there can be hope to address these fatal flaws in the conduct of journalists and journalism.

One must not lose sight of the fact that many would-be objective and responsible journalists ended up in the jails of the Third World countries simply for trying to be what we aspire them to be. This does not free the press society from the responsibility to wage wars on the tyrannical tendencies in their countries and oppose their incursions on their domain. Being "a key element in a pluralistic system of checks, balances and accountability," they could have won the battle against despotism in their countries had they mastered the techniques of honest and objective journalism and pursued them responsibly and courageously. The people of Jordan witnessed in the last few years how old journalist barons were jettisoned, not only be popular demand but also in cooperation with the central government of the country. It takes a wise leadership to nurture democratic rule in the country, and promote free and responsible press. Without these trends, positive journalistic reporting would have no chance to see the light of the day.

LETTERS

The tip of an iceberg

To the Editor:

UNFORTUNATELY it was only today that I was able to study R. Khouri's article of May 14 ("thank heaven for little girls"). Excellent. He executed a fine analysis of that "hot topic." However, I believe Mr. Khouri, at least partly because of his overexcitement about democracy at large and in Jordan in particular, has failed to clearly articulate his conclusion. I am helping: The "shorts of little girls" is only the tip of a huge, rapidly drifting iceberg. Education is only one facet of what he intended. Obviously under fire are our human prerequisites and freedom: hotels, banks, tourism, sports, cinema, theatre, social clubs, graduation ceremonies, etc... At stake are pluralism, tolerance, arts, literature, basic values and freedoms and even sciences. Let us talk about undermining of the Jordanian society's will to join the train of civilisation and prosperity. May I remind everybody according to the very valuable conceptions of top leaders of a country Singapore was seriously brought into discussion as a model for Jordan's future. I believed that all Jordanians will sense of duty and responsibility are supposed to feel the uneasiness of evidence that certain groups are not hesitating to draw Jordan (and certainly other societies) back into "dark ages".

Dr. S. Salim

Disappointing attitudes

To the Editor:

I AM both amazed and dismayed by the attitudes of Moslem Brotherhood ministers towards women.

I also think that their perception of male members of their society as a threat to women is very disappointing.

If men are such threatening creatures to women, should they be locked up so that women can lead a normal life, free from "persecution and oppression." After all, should we not lock the beast rather than victimise the victim?

Is segregation the answer to all the ills in our society? Could covering up of women, thus isolating them from society, be diminishing their productivity, be for the good of Jordan?

We, women should demand more of our society and we should work at improving our lives including granting women their rights. These are difficult times where the majority of men cannot cope on their own with the financial pressures of the day and need wives who can share the burden of bread-winning thus providing their children with security and a higher standard of living.

Arwa Mustafa

Turkey faces difficult foreign policy options

By Shireen Hunter

ONE of the countries which had a sharp profile during the Gulf crisis was Turkey. Indeed, given its long borders with Iraq and its membership in NATO, Turkey could hardly keep out of it. Nevertheless, the zeal and open publicity with which Turkey — or, more accurately, its president, Mr. Turgut Ozal — threw in its lot with the coalition against Iraq was a new phenomenon in modern Turkish diplomacy.

The legacy of Kemal Historically, Turkey's regional diplomacy has been guided by two key Kemalist principles: developing and maintaining relations with its neighbours which, if not always friendly, are at least not antagonistic; and avoiding entanglement in disputes that do not directly and immediately affect Turkey's security and well-being.

The Kemalist philosophy of Turkey's foreign relations was influenced by two underlying concerns and by the aspirations of post-imperial Turkey — namely, to shed its Ottoman past and heal rifts with Iran and the Arab World; and to point Turkey in the direction of Europe.

During the 1950s and '60s, Turkey became involved in such Middle East security arrangements as the Baghdad Pact and its successor, the Central Treaty Organisation (CENTO). Early on, Turkey also recognised Israel, and the two have since maintained close ties. Yet largely because of the cautious and low-key style of its diplomacy, Turkey managed to maintain reasonable relations with nearly all Arab states and avoided any significant Arab opprobrium for its relations with Israel. Turkey's situation is in sharp contrast with, for example, that of Iran under the shah, which became a particular target of Arab — especially radical Arab — animosity, partly because of the overly assertive, almost provocative, style of its diplomacy.

Indeed Kemalist policies have

past, and enhance the impression of a gradual departure from the Kemalist philosophy of Turkish foreign policy. During a visit to the United States, the Turkish foreign minister said that "Turkey is a Middle Eastern country." No doubt, geographically and culturally Turkey is essentially a Muslim, Middle Eastern country. But during the last 70 years, the whole thrust of Kemalist philosophy has been to deny these geographical and cultural facts and to undertake an unrelenting drive to incorporate Turkey into Europe. In the U.N. for instance, Turkey is not part of the Afro-Asian group, but rather the European group. Turkey is a member of the OECD. In Western foreign ministries, Turkish affairs are not entrusted to Middle East bureaux.

Furthermore, in recent months, with the intensifying of autonomist trends in the Soviet Union's Asian republics, Turkey has become increasingly active in these areas, especially in the neighbouring republics of Azerbaijan. But here, too, Turkey's recent policies represent a sharp departure from the past practice of avoiding entanglements. Indeed, when the Azerbaijani crisis erupted in January 1990, President Ozal had said in a speech at Washington's International Club that, since the overwhelming

key's image of itself and are posing challenges to traditional views regarding the country's regional and international roles. But because the consequences of systemic changes taking place both at the regional and international levels are not yet clear, and because Turkey is trying to relate to the new forces, its behaviour inevitably acquires a somewhat unfeeling character.

Turkey has made great strides

in economic and social development and, among Middle Eastern countries, it currently has the most advanced industrial base, including defence. Turkey's skillful diplomacy has also thus far shielded it from the devastation of regional strife. While in the 1970s and early '80s it suffered from internal turmoil, compared to many Middle Eastern countries it has nevertheless enjoyed remarkable political stability, even limited democracy.

At the same time, the Turkish economy is still debt-ridden and dependent on external assistance for continued growth. Inflation is high, and economic disparities, both at personal and regional levels, remain high. Turkey's success in developing a secular, Westernised society has also been limited, and the risk of internal turmoil persists.

Indeed Kemalist policies have failed to turn Turkey into secular

such tendencies as partial compensation for their refusal to admit Turkey to the European Community.

Similarly, Turkey's efforts to carve a more important economic and political role for itself in the Middle East directly related to this factor and to the strategic consequences of the end of the Cold War. Indeed, before the Gulf war there was frequent talk of a reduction in Turkey's strategic significance. Thus some in the U.S. were suggesting cuts in its aid to Turkey. In part to demonstrate Turkey's continued usefulness and importance to the West, President Ozal decisively, and despite considerable internal grumbling, sided with the U.S. against Iraq. For the same reason, Turkey may decide to continue being a NATO base for the Middle East, as well as the principal Western conduit to the Soviet Union's Asian Muslims.

But such a role does not appeal to many Turks on cultural, religious or other grounds. The link between economic assistance and the West's use of Turkish facilities for military operations in the Middle East is demeaning to many. Most significantly, many Turks are concerned that such a policy of "strategic U.S.-Turkish partnership" could cause severe strains in Turkey's relations with many countries in the Middle East. Indeed, in all likelihood, Turkey would find it difficult to pursue all of these goals without running serious risks in terms of relations with its neighbours and of becoming entangled in Middle East disputes, including the Arab-Israeli conflict. This is already happening, but the full implication for Turkey are not yet clear, in part because of political uncertainties in the Arab World. In addition, policies inspired by pan-Turkic sentiments, if pushed too far, would inevitably bring Turkey into conflict with Iran.

In the Muslim world, as well, Turkey's effort to portray itself as the ideal of Islamic modernism would stimulate rivalry on the part of other contenders for leadership. Moreover, Turkey's close Western and especially U.S. links would make it suspect. Most important, however, foreign policy decisions would have implications for the way Turkey defines itself as a nation. By the same token, its foreign policy would be influenced by the evolution of its collective self-image.

With the end of the Cold War it is certainly true that Turkey will increasingly be drawn into what can best be described as the vortex of Islamic policies. It is also clear that President Ozal's vision of Turkey as the only Muslim member of a united Europe, the leader of all Turkic peoples, a principal political force in the Middle East, a leader of the Muslim world and the mediator between Islam and the West cannot be achieved easily, if at all. On the contrary, during the next decade Turkey will face difficult choices in terms of its national and international orientation.

This trend is further strengthened by Europe's rebuff to Turkey, which many Turks believe has happened largely because of its Islamic character. Consequently, some Islamic political groups now argue that Turkey should look more towards cooperating with Muslim countries by leading efforts to form an "Islamic common market."

New horizons, and obstacles

Changes in the Soviet Union

are also opening new horizons for the Turks, thus intensifying certain pan-Turkic trends. Here too, however, despair at ever joining Europe has increased the attraction of future possibilities for Turkey in Soviet Asia. Indeed, the Europeans may encourage

Look again!

To the Editor:

CONCERNING "Glance in the Mirror," by George Halford (Letters to the Editor, Jordan Times, May 29, 1991), I enjoyed and wholeheartedly agree with the sentiments expressed by Mr. Halford and was delighted to read a letter printed with a touch of humour and controversy.

I too am an avid reader if not admirer of Rami Khouri's articles, but one can only absorb so much continual negative criticism especially from such a well respected and influential writer. I cannot help but feel he could contribute so much more a positive way.

It is all too easy to blame others for our misfortunes as in the particular case the West apparently has to shoulder the blame for all the misfortunes that the Arab World has encountered. I would not think for a moment that the Arab World would be more than enough to go along with this conclusion. So why does Mr. Khouri continually promote and perpetuate this belief?

Is Jordan progressing towards democracy? I wonder! Let us face all the facts and not just the ones that are most convenient.

If I may suggest to Mr. Khouri that he stop crying on the same side and adopt a more controversial and objective approach which would be more worthy of his talents and in turn provide an interesting and stimulating reading.

Jean Falakouri (Mirat P.O. Box 16 Amman)



Features

King: Taboos and cliches should disappear

(Continued from page 1)

there are some realities that I hope will sink into the minds of all concerned. The problem is really such that it is not a localised, limited problem. It is the problem that requires very massive effort: People of goodwill who are interested and anxious to see progress should be engaged. We need for example in my view an educational process to really be extensively carried out. So if you take the Israeli dimension they have lived within a fortress, and they've lived within a fortress for a long time and with a fortress mentality; but I believe that many don't know what peace offers.

Q: Doesn't Your Majesty fear that the Americans might adopt the Israeli option for a settle-

A: What we are seeking is a solution that will last, a solution of this problem that future generations can live with and can protect. So I have very serious doubts that despite the fact that maybe the military option, which may have been on the minds of some, is totally irrelevant now and has been removed from the scene for a long time to come. There is the other side of it and that is the danger that unless there is progress in a balanced way, I believe that the area could suffer great turbulence and extremism which could jeopardise not only all within this region, but the world as a whole. So, I haven't had the impression that the Americans are necessarily taking the Israeli option or supporting it.

Q: But doesn't Your Majesty fear that Jordan will be sacrificed for a Palestinian State?

A: Let's look at it realistically. Even that theory or approach... Why do I say the problem is a problem of much greater magnitude? Even assuming that this is the approach of some, (and) if we look at the map and you look at Jordan and Palestine including Israel and you look at the possibility that maybe in the minds of some that the problem could be resolved within these confines. I cannot honestly see how this land mass can absorb all the Jews of the world, those in Israel and those coming to Israel, all the Palestinians and all the Jordanians. This is physically impossible. Therefore, this is not an option — the option is really peace that opens so many doors, for stability within the region, for people interacting and for progress to be achieved. And on the other hand from my perspective there is another dimension that has to be addressed; it has been brought to the forefront in terms of what has happened recently when Iraq invaded Kuwait and occupied it. We here in Jordan had to suddenly face the fact of over two hundred thousand who have lived all this life in Kuwait, coming back. Many of them didn't leave from here. Many of them have been in Kuwait for three generations, built Kuwait. So, what happens to these people in the future? Not the ones that we have here, but in a new context, a real general attempt to change the shape for things in the area where hopefully democracy, power-sharing is recognised to be an essential part of the life of any country. These people have to have their rights as well. Other-

wise, you have a problem where Israel, if it chooses, expels people. But the same thing is happening regardless of the circumstances even within our own area and our own region. And I believe that Palestinians must feel that they are not a non-people. They are a people, they have their rights, human rights; they are respected everywhere and hopefully in the future they will be an element of stability in the region. Jordan is the only country throughout the many years... that has chosen a path for which it was criticised at times. But Jordan is the only country that has given Palestinians its nationality, not jeopardising the final outcome. In other words, they could have conceivably in the future if we moved towards a solution, a dual nationality and the same should be applied elsewhere in the region. There are things that are not possible, nor do they make any sense in terms of trying to limit the problem and go step by step in the old way: The approach of the United States and others for example with regard to Egypt and Israel. We really need to look at all the aspects, all the elements and we are ready to do whatever we can; but we have to be open-minded; we have to be constructive; we have to have vision; and we have to secure rights for people so that we have real peace and a lasting peace in this region.

Q: Your Majesty mentioned the possibility of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation. How do you see its perspective at present within a possible solution?

A: First of all, this is contingent on our receiving a very clear request from the Palestinians themselves, and we had been working with the PLO and we had reached an agreement and the PLO, a far as we are concerned, are the address of the Palestinian people, regardless of all the attempts to portray the picture otherwise, whether it is a delegation of Palestinians from the occupied territories, combined with others. Obviously we hope to achieve that. It is too early now to say but we will not impose ourselves; we will not be in a position to move beyond saying at this stage that we will be ready to look at a Palestinian request for us to form a joint delegation in which case it will be a Palestinian and a Jordanian delegation. The Palestinian one will handle the Palestinian dimension of the problem with our support. But we will provide the umbrella if the Palestinians are persuaded that this is the only way out; we will look at it. We had such an agreement in '85. We can revive it and look at it and also regarding our future relations once peace is established.

Q: Many Palestinians in Jordan believe that the best thing for the future is a confederation between Jordan and an independent Palestinian state. What is your view?

A: This is the way that we had looked at in the past and if you go back to the very early '70s we had offered three options that if the territories were recovered either some form of a federation or in terms of facts... that would mean two local governments and a central parliament, and a central government that would look after this new creation at that time we

visualized that it would have amongst its responsibilities defence and foreign policy. The other option was an independent Palestinian state. The third option was the return to the union which I don't believe was feasible either then or now despite the fact that we are extremely close together. I believe people are attached to their identity and to their nationality, so to speak, even within the context of the family that we form here. So, that wasn't looked at very seriously at the time and in fact it caused us to suffer a lot but they were the three options then. And I believe in '85 that evolved to the idea of a confederation. But essentially it should be what I described at some point. I believe that somehow self-determination has to be brought into the equation, and the consequences that have occurred in this region in terms of death and destruction, be it Iraq or in Kuwait. We were ever concerned with environmental problem that this globe has faced. So, we were never for the acquisition of territory by war, and this has been our stand regarding the Palestinian problem, throughout the years that have passed.

Q: Under which conditions is Your Majesty ready to meet the talk with Israeli leaders?

A: I firmly believe that a taboo and cliches have to be put aside.

If we are convinced of where we are, (and) we know what our case is, and we have self-confidence and we have a sense of responsibility, then probably we should not be concerned or worried to talk to anybody at anytime. Anyways, it is early to speak of this but I believe it will have to come soon.

Q: But at this point in time is it useful to talk to Israeli leaders?

A: I believe regardless of whether it will happen or not, we are talking about a process now and we don't know exactly how it is going to develop or work out, or what the rules will be. But barriers sooner or later will have to disappear. I believe maybe in the future face-to-face contacts will dispel many of the fears both sides have of each other at an appropriate time.

Q: Does Your Majesty believe the future must be along the lines of the European experience and I hope we can put it together.

Q: A common market of the Middle East in 10 years from now?

A: Something like that I hope it can happen.

Q: The fundamentalists are becoming stronger and stronger in Jordan. Doesn't this threaten the course of democracy?

A: I am very concerned for democracy in this country, and I am very determined to do everything I can to avoid... any threats to it because democracy has caused it to be able to stand together during the most difficult crisis we ever faced as we have recently, certainly full of promise.

But at the same time it is important that this succeeds because its success will be a positive element in terms of the region as a whole and an example of something that can work. With the recent elections that brought the facts in which we live right now to being. We concentrated on the National Charter and we established a dialogue between all the different political schools of thoughts, and really in itself, it was a process of reconciliation, and the Charter is almost ready and I hope to see it become a reality very, very soon. But on

the other hand, I believe that a great number of us here in Jordan are becoming more and more aware of the threat to a democracy if its real meaning is now known. I have always advocated the approach of retaining from our past the best characteristics of our nation and that identity as such but also opening up to the rest of the world. I believe there is no contradiction with religion in that regard. There may be a danger wherever religion is politicized and I hope this will not be the case here because if it is then this is not faith and religion, and wherever it is politicized I believe people usually try to destroy religion and faith in the name of religion and faith and I don't think we will permit that to happen.

This parliament in Jordan has been chosen by the people of Jordan at a certain point in time.

And I believe it has contributed positively in many respects, and in many areas. But if we are talking of the future and if we are talking about a charter that has been talked out by people representing all schools of thought in this country including many who represent the extreme right to the extreme left, then obviously, when the Charter is a fact, and all the freedoms are there, Jordanians will have the chance to take another look, and after Parliament is a reflection of the people and their mood at a certain point in time. But in the future when new realities come into being, when the Charter permits the freedoms for all, I believe the situation will develop and evolve.

In any event, I believe the experience of sharing power will also moderate the attitudes. It is one thing to be on the outside talking about hypothetical solutions that might be extreme or otherwise, and another thing to be within the picture and aware of what is happening.

But I really hope and pray for a determination to bring in more power sharing into every part of the Arab world, to bring in more democracy, more respect for human rights, more participation in government which are guarantees, in themselves, of mistakes not occurring again regardless of their nature, and at the same time if you look at the entire Arab world I believe very firmly that the future must be along the lines of the European experience and I hope we can put it together.

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Starving a nation: The myth and reality of sanctions

By Anne Grace

SANCTIONS against Iraq, authorised by the United Nations under Security Council Resolution 661, were a widely accepted non-violent attempt to restore Kuwaiti sovereignty and avoid a war. The war was fought anyway and victory declared. But Iraqis know that the war connoted after the bombs in a much less messy and much less visible way: the continuation of sanctions after their accepted original objective of forcing Iraq out of Kuwait has been achieved.

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Prost optimistic as Senna run comes to an end

Piquet wins Canadian GP

MONTREAL (R) — Alain Prost and his fellow Formula One drivers believe Nelson Piquet's victory in Sunday's eventful Canadian Grand Prix is a signal that the 1991 season is not a foregone conclusion.

After watching Brazil's Ayrton Senna reel off a record opening run of four consecutive victories, Prost had become a subdued and frustrated figure at Ferrari.

But after what looked like another disappointing day for the Italian team Sunday, when both Prost and fellow Frenchman and team mate Jean Alesi were forced to retire, he was surprisingly full of confidence as he looked ahead.

He said: "The Ferrari felt really good today. I thought the car was the best it has felt since the race in Spain last year so I am not too disappointed except with our result."

"The team needs a win and I believe we can win in Mexico later this month. If we win, it will do us all good. Everyone is working so hard. A good result in Mexico would be perfect before

the new car arrives for France in July."

"I don't want to say too much about the championship, but I feel Ferrari have a good chance to start winning again — and today's result shows that anything can still happen in Grand Prix."

Prost was not the only driver feeling more optimistic. Brazilian Piquet, who steered his Benetton to victory only after inheriting the lead from Nigel Mansell in the final lap, said he felt he was now able to compete on even terms with Senna's McLaren in the new John Barnard-designed B191.

"I may have won through the bad luck of others, but it's a win," said Piquet. "It is a fantastic result for the team after all their hard work."

If nothing else we have proved we can run as competitively as Ferrari and McLaren, even if Williams were out in front. But it is all about finishing and we made the best of it."

The Williams team, having proved all weekend they had the two quickest drivers and the fas-

test cars, eventually finished up disappointed.

Britain's Mansell, having led from the first corner, was forced to retire on the final lap with electrical transmission problems after looking certain to grab the 17th win of his career and team mate Italian Riccardo Patrese only finished third after spending most of the race on Mansell's tail.

Their overall performance, however, was impressive enough to suggest they have now harnessed their innovative new car with some dignity.

"I am a happy man," said Antic. "With this triumph our objective has been reached. I am very proud of my team."

Striker Emilio Butragueno's two goals put him at the top of the scoring table with a tally of 19, two more than Ireland's John Aldridge for Real Sociedad. Real host league champions Barcelona Saturday in their last game of the 1991.

Antic's compatriot Tomislav Ivic, the Atletico Madrid coach, blamed himself for the home defeat.

ican clay-court players of their generation, won fourth-round matches Sunday at the French Open in different styles but with the same ease.

Agassi ran off 15 straight points at the end of the first set to begin his 6-3, 6-3, 5-7, 6-1 rout of Alberto Mancini in a battle of two baseline pounders. Except for a short period in the third set, Agassi overpowered the Argentine on a sun-drenched centre court.

The two top seeds have been shadowing each other for years in their quest for Grand Slam titles and the number one slot. Neither has ever won the French Open and both went out on the same day in the first round in Paris last year.

Meanwhile Andre Agassi and Michael Chang, the best Amer-

ican clay-court players of their generation, won fourth-round matches Sunday at the French Open in different styles but with the same ease.

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Chang followed his compatriot on court, where he suffered a similar third-set letdown before finishing off seventh-seeded Frenchman Guy Forget 6-1, 6-1, 4-6, 6-3.

Joining them in the quarterfinals were second seed Boris Becker and unseeded Jakob Hlasek.

Defending champion and no. 1 seed Monica Seles was the first top woman to lose a set in the tournament, but she rebounded to defeat an injured Sandra Cecchini 3-6, 6-3, 6-0. Cecchini, slowed by a pulled calf muscle, led 2-0 in the second set before collapsing.

Seles said she had trouble concentrating because she was wondering about the condition of Cecchini, who was injured in the second set of her victory Saturday over Anke Huber and played Seles with the calf tightly wrapped in a bandage.

The other top women all won in straight sets, including second seed Steffi Graf, third-seeded Gabriela Sabatini, fourth seed Mary Joe Fernandez and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, the 1989 champion and no. 5 seed this year.

Conchita Martinez, the seventh seed, eliminated 10th seed Jennifer Capriati 6-3, 6-3 and then said she couldn't understand why some people considered it an upset.

The unexpected hero Sunday gave the Lakers an unexpected 93-91 victory over Chicago on the second anniversary of the Bulls' last playoff loss at home. It was only their second loss in 13 playoff games this year and broke their streak of 15 home playoff wins, an National Basketball Association record.

Neither team led by more than seven points. The Lakers' 84-80 lead was the biggest in the last 10 minutes. The lead changed hands six times in that span as Jordan

Real qualifies for UEFA Cup

By Reuters

"It was more my defeat than the team's," he said. "It was a just defeat but the blame is mine."

Ivic said he had been wrong to substitute striker Manolo Sanchez and Portuguese captain Paulo Futre, instead of midfielder Donato Gama.

In Germany, most attention is still centred around Bayern Munich coach Jupp Heynckes, even though his team look set to lose the German title for only the second time in seven seasons.

Heynckes much-publicised promise in a Munich magazine that, if Kaiserslautern won the title, he would work behind a hot sausage stall the next time leaders Kaiserslautern visit Munich looks increasingly rash.

Bayer's title hopes virtually ended when they lost 3-2 at Wettenscheid and Kaiserslautern secured a surprise 2-1 victory at fourth-placed Werder Bremen.

The south-west club, who were battling against relegation last season, are now four points clear and need just one point from their last two games to clinch their first championship since 1953.

Heynckes has already thrown in the towel.

"Kaiserslautern have deserved the title not just because they have topped the league for a long time but because they have played more successful soccer — even if they had a bit of luck now and again."

French champions Marseille, having lost the European Cup final, can gain a degree of compensation with another domestic league and cup double.

Marseille face Monaco in the French Cup final at Parc Des Princes Saturday after beating second division Rodez 4-1 Sunday thanks to a hat trick by France's top marksman Jean-Pierre Papin.

If they win, it will be their second league and cup double within two years. In 1989, Marseille won both trophies, beating Monaco 4-3 in the French Cup final.

The Dutch Cup final ion Rotterdam Sunday turned out to be a disappointing affair, Feyenoord Rotterdam beating second division BVV Den Bosch 1-0.

An eighth-minute goal from striker Rob Witsche rescued a poor season for Feyenoord, earning the club their first success since 1984 when they completed a Dutch League and cup double.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY JUNE 4, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Not a particularly important day or evening as Mercury moves into Gemini and few vitally significant aspects are touched off that will help you accomplish your immediate desires.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Your love of investigating and finding out exactly what any condition actually means is under adverse aspects so attend to your own conditions.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Whatever you have in mind that does mean contacting good friends should be muted so that you do nothing to upset or anger them today.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 19) Your reputation can come under attack if you do anything today that is not to accord rules and regulations that in any way apply to you.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) So many new thoughts are zooming through your mind that you are all to apt to try to make several of them work but instead postpone starting anything new.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) This is your time to attend strictly to promises made and to carry through with the obligations that are your and that require real action.

TODAY'S CHILD: If your child were born today she or he will pick a vocation that requires a lofty approach with work that requires special service and help to others.

This progeny will never be happy with themselves or others until they have everything in just its right placement, properly accounted for and cleaned.

upon and when you would be wise to get off alone and do your projects without assistance.

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"The stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you.

Edberg follows the Becker trail

PARIS (Agencies) — Top seed Stefan Edberg followed the Boris Becker trail once again as he moved into the quarter-finals of the French Open Monday with a straight sets win over Andrei Cherkasov of the Soviet Union.

The Swede's path into the last eight, remarkably similar to that of the German second seed so far, took on an identical character in the fourth round.

Edberg beat Cherkasov 7-6, 6-4, 6-3, exactly the same score by which Becker beat Francisco Clavet of Spain 24 hours earlier, and even the story of the match was a carbon copy.

Both Edberg and Becker trailed 5-2 in the opening set and managed to save set point before fighting back to win in a tiebreak.

To compound the similarity,

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Papin to stay at Marseille

PARIS (R) — France's top marksman Jean-Pierre Papin will remain with European Cup losing soccer finalists Marseille next season despite rumours he has been approached by AC Milan. Marseille's President Bernard Tapie, denying Italian press reports about the transfer, said he would not release his star striker. "The rumour goes that (AC Milan president) Silvio Berlusconi wants him. I have not been approached by Berlusconi," he said. "But if I gave him Papin without taking (Milan's Dutch striker) Marco Van Basten to replace him, I would need psychiatric treatment," he said. Papin, the leading goalscorer in France for the last four seasons, told French television Sunday he fancied playing in Italy. "If I had the choice, I would leave for Milan," he said. Papin did not say whether he had been in contact with the former European Cup holders. Marseille lost the European Cup final on penalties to Red Star Belgrade last Wednesday.

Raty shatters javelin record

STOCKHOLM (Agencies) — Finn Seppo Raty shattered his own javelin world record by almost five metres with a throw of 96.96 metres in Punkalaidun, Finland, Sunday, the Swedish news agency TT reported. Raty set the fresh mark less than a month after he broke Briton Steve Backley's record with 91.98 in Japan. Raty, 1987 world champion and 1988 Olympic bronze medallist, became the first Finn to hold the record for more than 21 years when he passed Backley's 90.98 set in London last July. In another even Sunday, Asko Peltoniemi of Finland cleared 5.72 metres (18-9 1-4) in the pole vault to set a new nordic record, improving the old mark by one centimetre (4-10ths of an inch).

Penalver wins decathlon

ALHAMA, Spain (R) — Spaniard Antonio Penalver set a national record and 1991 world best when he totalled 8,306 points in a decathlon match between Spain and Britain Sunday. World record holder Daley Thompson, the former Olympic and world champion, completed only seven of the 10 disciplines, pulling out of Saturday's 400 metres and Sunday's javelin and 1,500. Spain's Francisco Javiet Benet finished second with 7,574 points followed by Briton Mark Bishop with 7,443.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

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UNEARTHING AN EXTRA CHANCE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH	J 10 8 6 4
	A 9 5
	2
	Q 7 6 5
WEST	EAST
A K Q 7 6 5	7 5 3
10 8 4 2	8 6
Q 9 4 3	10 7 6 5
10 3	9 4 2

First, South cashed the three high clubs in hand, forcing a diamond discard from West. Then came a club to the board's queen, and we would have liked to see West boldly cash another diamond. However, that defense was reluctant to unguard the queen of diamonds and wanted to hang on to the good heart, so West sluffed the ace of spades in an effort to convince declarer that East held the king.

But declarer, sensing the lie of the cards, was not about to be talked out of the endplay that was brewing. South led a spade from the table and West was saddled with the lead. That defender could cash the good heart, but then had to lead a diamond into declarer's tenace for the ninth trick.

What if East had held the king of spades? Declarer would have been in worse off than before. East would have been forced to shift to a diamond, and declarer would have been able to fall back on the diamond finesse.

Declarer routinely ducked the first heart trick and won the continuation in hand. The nine of spades

lost to West's queen, and the remaining heart stopper was driven out. Declarer could count eight tricks, and it looked as if the ninth would have to come from a diamond finesse. But declarer was in no rush to stake the contract on a mere finesse.

First, South cashed the three high clubs in hand, forcing a diamond discard from West. Then came a club to the board's queen, and we would have liked to see West boldly cash another diamond. However, that defense was reluctant to unguard the queen of diamonds and wanted to hang on to the good heart, so West sluffed the ace of spades in an effort to convince declarer that East held the king.

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Andy Capp



كذا من الأصل

JUMBLE

Economy

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1991

مكتبة من الأصل

Financial Markets Jordan Times
in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank



U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close
Sterling Pound	5.91	5.91
Deutsche Mark	1.7425	1.7418
Swiss Franc	1.4855	1.4848
French Franc	5.9075	5.9100
Japanese Yen	138.35	138.37
European Currency Unit	1.1605	1.1501

* U.S. Dollars per STG

** European Opening at 8:00 a.m. GMT
Eurocurrency Interest Rates Date: 3/6/1991

Currency	1 MTHS	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.67	5.93	6.12	6.56
Sterling Pound	11.31	11.18	10.87	10.51
Deutsche Mark	8.75	8.95	9.00	9.06
Swiss Franc	7.81	7.81	7.81	7.88
French Franc	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.18
Japanese Yen	7.84	7.62	7.56	7.31
European Currency Unit	9.93	9.81	9.75	9.82

Interest bid rates for amounts exceeding 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Precious Metals Date: 3/6/1991

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm ^a	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	560.50	6.70	Silver	4.11	.098

^a 24 Karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 3/6/1991

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	.6820	.6840
Sterling Pound	1.1572	1.1630
Deutsche Mark	.3917	.3937
Swiss Franc	.4596	.4619
French Franc	.1156	.1162
Japanese Yen ^b	.4924	.4949
Dutch Guilder	.3478	.3495
Swedish Krona	.1094	.1099
Italian Lira ^c	.0529	.0532
Belgian Franc	.0911	.0921

Per 100

Other Currencies Date: 3/6/1991

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7800	1.8050
Lebanese Lira ^d	.074	.076
Saudi Riyal	.1815	.1821
Kuwaiti Dinar	-	-
Qatari-Riyal	.1844	.1860
Egyptian Pound	.1900	.2050
Omani Rial	.17400	.17600
UAE Dirham	.1844	.1860
Greek Drachma ^e	.3550	.3650
Cypriot Pound	.14100	.14300

Per 100

CAS Indices for Amman Financial Market^f:

Index	1/6/1991	Close	2/6/1991	Close
All-Share	112.92	112.89		
Banking Sector	110.25	110.45		
Insurance Sector	112.48	112.56		
Industry Sector	115.19	114.89		
Services Sector	127.13	126.46		

December 31, 1990 = 100

Soviet platinum sales reach 15-year high

LONDON (R) — The Soviet Union sold 700,000 ounces of platinum to the West last year, the most for 15 years, according to figures published by the world's largest platinum refiner.

Moscow also sold record amounts of the precious metals palladium and rhodium in a bid to raise hard currency for its struggling economy, Johnson Matthey

PLC said. "Soviet platinum shipments were the highest for over 15 years. It is likely that USSR stocks were drawn down to meet market demand," it said in its annual review.

Soviet sales of the metal, used mainly as a catalyst to clean up toxic car exhaust fumes, rose 27 per cent over the previous year.

'Polly Peck should not be liquidated'

LONDON (R) — Court-appointed administrators running British conglomerate Polly Peck have said liquidation of the group would probably raise only 20 per cent of the face value of debts owed to shareholders and creditors.

The administrators, in a report sent to creditors of Polly Peck International (PPI) PLC, said the London-based food-to-electronics group should be kept intact to repay creditors owed a total of £1.12 billion (\$1.9 billion).

The administrators consider that the best prospects for the creditors lie in the retention and rehabilitation of substantial parts of the group," the report said.

Based on estimates by company directors, which were heavily hedged with uncertainties, liquidation could yield a dividend of around 20 pence (34 cents) in the pound (\$1.73).

The estimates implied a di-

vidend of around 52 pences (89 cents) in the pound if assets were sold off over a long period, but this would not be available to the short term.

But joint administrators Michael Jordao and Riebard Stone said the core businesses, built up almost singlehandedly by Turkish Cypriot-born chairman Asil Nadir, should be developed and eventually partially floated off on the Turkish bourse.

The company, which had wide-ranging interests including the fresh fruit operations of U.S.-based Del Monte and Japan's Sansui electronics firm, collapsed in October in the midst of an investigation into the affairs of the group and Mr. Nadir.

Mr. Nadir, once one of the richest men in Britain when his company was valued at £2 billion (\$3.4 billion) on the stock market in mid-1990, faces 18 criminal charges of theft and false accounting relating to over £20 million.

The administrators said liquidation would probably raise only 20 per cent of the face value of debts owed to shareholders and creditors.

Mr. Morris has been trying to find out whether the money is available to the PPI group and if transfers and application of funds by subsidiaries were fully accounted for.

"One particular focus of the investigation has been the payment of very large sums by PPI to the Near East food, packaging and leisure businesses leading to balances of some £959 million apparently owing to PPI at 30 June, 1990," Mr. Christopher Morris of accountants Touche Ross Morris said in the report.

The rescue plan recommends two key Middle East operations comprising food and packaging units and leisure interests should be offered to public investors.

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MEES says GCC refused Kuwaiti oil 'loan' request

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Kuwait's neighbours have refused its request that they produce 800,000 barrels a day of oil on its behalf, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday.

The Cyprus-based weekly, citing sources, said it had learned that Gulf Cooperation Council countries (GCC) told Kuwait they did not have enough oil to spare, while others cited financial constraints.

Kuwaiti Oil Minister Hamoud Al Rugbah has said his government made the request in 1987 that provided a safety net for oil deliveries in the event of damage to the export capability of any member country.

Afterwards, GCC Secretary-General Abdullah Bishara had publicly indicated only that the decision was postponed at least until after the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) meeting in Vienna.

The emirate argued it suffered immense damage during the Iraqi occupation and it is currently facing huge bills for reconstruction and putting out oil fires, without any possibility of significant oil exports before early next year, the newsletter said.

The requested crude oil "loan"

Iraqi unions to pay unemployment benefits

BAGHDAD (R) — The Iraqi Trade Union Federation has decided to pay unemployment benefit of 80 dinars a month to workers laid off because of the economic crisis, the government newspaper Al Jumhoriyah said Monday.

Mr. Jamil Al Jabouri, the vice president of the federation, told the newspaper it was preparing lists of the workers but he gave no figures.

Eighty dinars is about half of the average salary in the public sector. It is worth \$250 at the official exchange rate but has a purchasing power equivalent to about \$15.

Al Jumhoriyah quoted workers as saying the decision to close restaurants would help hold down food prices, which have risen sharply since the sanctions came into effect.

But a restaurateur said the measure would damage the financial interests of both restaurant owners and workers.

Mubarrad to make public share offer

MANAMA, Bahrain (R) — The Saudi Land Transport Company (Mubarrad) said it will make a public share issue worth 180 million riyals.

The Riyadh-based firm said its shareholders had approved the issue of 1.8 million new shares to raise its capital to 300 million riyals (\$80 million) from 120 million (\$32 million) now.

Deputy director and general manager, Abdul Malik Ahmad Al Sbaikhi told Reuters the move followed a decision last month by Commerce Minister Suliman Abdul Aziz Al Salim to change the firm's status from a limited liability company to a joint stock company.

The new shares will be offered to the Saudi public on June 29 through domestic banks at 100 riyals (\$26) each.

Sheikh said ownership of the original 120 million riyals worth of shares would be limited to founder shareholders of the company, formerly known as the Saudi Refrigerated Transport Company.

The firm's activities include transporting vegetables to and from Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states.

It also transports the meat from lambs sacrificed by pilgrims to Mecca during the Hajj season within the kingdom and in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon.

Sheikh said the company posted a 22 million riyal (\$5.9 million) accumulated net profit in 1990 and the first quarter of 1991.

It was the second Saudi firm to offer shares to the public.

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South Korean prime minister assaulted by student protesters

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Prime Minister Chung Won-Shik was kicked and roughed up by militant students Monday when he visited a university to give a lecture, police and witnesses said.

Police said the prime minister escaped unharmed from the dozens of militant students, who hurled eggs and wheat flour at him at Seoul's Hankook University of Foreign Studies.

The incident came hours after President Roh Tae-Woo ordered tougher crackdowns on violent protests after 1,500 riot police using tear gas and water cannons battered students in a hospital compound where the body of a dead protester has been kept.

Chung, appointed prime minister in a partial cabinet reshuffle on May 24, was giving a lecture to graduate students of the university when the disturbance began, police said.

Chung, 62, a former college professor on education, served as education minister from 1988-90. He had been a lecturer at the school for the spring semester, and aides said Monday was his final day there.

Bangladesh death toll from latest storm lower than feared

DHAKA (R) — The death toll from storm-driven tidal waves that battered the Bangladeshi coast Sunday appears to be in the hundreds rather than the thousands killed in the April cyclone, relief officials said Monday. "The actual number of casualties is much less than was feared," a Relief Ministry official in Dhaka told Reuters.

At least 200 people were missing believed drowned when 30 fishing boats sank in the Meghna River that drains into the Bay of Bengal, officials said.

"Searches for the boats... have proved futile," coastal district official Nuruddin Khan said. "We suppose 200 or more people on board these boats are all dead."

He said four people were confirmed dead in the delta town of Bhola when their homes collapsed during the storm.

"But the toll could go up to some extent when reports from far off affected areas would be available," he added.

Eighty miles an hour (130 kph) winds screamed out of the Bay of Bengal Sunday whipping up four-metre waves and driving them at Bhola, Patuakhali and Cox's Bazar.

The ferocity of the storm that raged for three hours alarmed survivors of the April 29 cyclone whose 145 mph (230 kph) winds and six-metre (20-foot) tidal wave killed more than 138,000 people.

Officials said the apparent low death toll this time was the result of "stringent" preparations and a large-scale evacuation of people from the storm's path.

"Everyone was prepared and rushed to safety before the storm hit the land," the official in Barisal said.

"There was hardly anything on the ground except a few tattered homes or tents set up to shelter victims of the previous storm."

Witnesses said 30 minutes after he began the lecture, about 200 students began a sit-down protest outside his classroom. Students hurled eggs as he interrupted his class and came out of the classroom, they said.

The prime minister locked himself in another room but was forced out by students who broke open the doors, witnesses said. He then was taken out to the school's playground, flanked by students, they said.

Students kicked and doused the prime minister with wheat flour as he has led toward the school's main gate, witnesses said. Aides rescued the prime minister and he left the school by taxi in 45 minutes, they said.

Roh told a meeting of government prosecutors earlier Monday, "peaceful assemblies and demonstrations would be guaranteed but violent protests by illegal terrorist groups must be dealt with harshly."

The justice minister and the national police chief, echoing Roh's tough stand, issued separate statements warning that the government would not tolerate

lawlessness any longer.

The government warning came shortly after riot police attacked 500 students guarding the Paik Hospital in central Seoul. Witnesses said police tore down the wood and trash barricades and moved to within 15 metres of the hospital morgue but were unable to retrieve the protester's body.

Students erected barricades again at both ends of a street in front of the hospital after police withdrew in one hour.

About 30 students and 10 riot police were injured in the attack, witnesses said. No arrests were reported.

It was the second police attack on the hospital in less than a week to retrieve the body for an autopsy. Militant students have blocked repeated attempts by prosecutors to conduct an autopsy.

Militant student and dissident leaders demanding that prosecutors investigate alleged police brutality before conducting an autopsy on the dead student's body.

So far, the steady anti-government offensive has failed to attract middle-class sympathizers, and Roh has hardened his position against violent protests.

Officials claim that she was trampled while fleeing from riot police. Dissidents argue that she died of suffocation by excessive use of tear gas.

The standoff threatened to further intensify Roh's most serious political crisis only three weeks before nationwide elections on local self-rule.

Four hours after the attack was launched, tear gas remained heavy in the air around the hospital. One nurse said several newborn babies had been placed in incubators to avoid breathing problems.

Demonstrations triggered by the fatal beating of a student by police on April 26 have created the worst political crisis for Roh since he took office in early 1988.

Roh has changed his prime minister and five cabinet members in a bid to halt unrest, but dissidents have demanded his resignation and a new democratic government.

Government officials and dissident leaders dispute the cause of the student's death on May 25.

Soviet prosecutor vindicates use of force in Lithuania

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet prosecutor's office Monday vindicated the use of troops in the bloody suppression of pro-independence demonstrations in Lithuania last January.

In a preliminary report that could revive Western doubts about Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's commitment to reforms, the prosecutor said none of the 13 civilian victims was killed by the Soviet military or their auxiliary forces.

He also said the troops were called in to restore order amid civil unrest in Lithuania and were met with a hail of stones, Molotov cocktails and even bullets.

Thirteen civilians were killed and hundreds were injured in the early hours of Jan. 13 when Soviet forces stormed the Radio and Television Centre in Vilnius where pro-independence demonstrators had formed a protective

Troops said they had been called in by a shadowy Committee of National Salvation seeking to stem what it called a social crisis and to restore the republic's ties to Moscow.

The report, signed by prosecutor Nikolai Trubin and distributed to the Soviet parliament, blamed Lithuania's separatist leadership for the crisis, citing what it called "unconstitutional activities."

"The leadership of the Soviet Interior (Ministry) troops... and the Vilnius garrison, in order to provide safety and law and order and to prevent mass riots and to disarm the militants... took appropriate measures."

"Investigators of the Lithuanian prosecutor's office presented no proof that would confirm that the deaths and injuries were the result of the military action,"

Trubin said.

The findings contradicted first-hand accounts by a number of Western reporters and local witnesses, who said unarmed protesters were crushed by Soviet tanks, beaten with rifle butts and fired upon by elite paratrooper squads.

Disclosure of the investigation results comes as the Soviet leader seeks an invitation to the July summit of seven leading industrialized countries to discuss assistance for his ailing economy.

The bloodshed in Vilnius touched off a wave of anger in the West and led to a delay of the superpower summit that had been set for early February.

But Gorbachev recently appeared to have repaired most of the damage, reaching a compromise with his critics in the Soviet republics and improving contacts with Western partners.

Khmer Rouge rejects Hun Sen as vice chairman of National Council

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — The strongest of the Cambodian guerrilla factions refused Monday to accept the government's prime minister as vice chairman of a council that would lead the war-torn nation until elections are held.

Resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who is to head the Supreme National Council, said the Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction also rejected an indefinite extension of the ceasefire between the guerrillas and the Vietnamese-backed government.

Sihanouk said nominal Khmer Rouge leader Khiem Samphan conveyed the faction's rejection of Premier Hun Sen as vice chairman at a meeting Monday.

"The Khmer Rouge supports Sihanouk as chairman of the Supreme National Council but not Hun Sen as vice chairman of the council," Sihanouk said after his talks with Khiem Samphan.

Sihanouk and Hun Sen had agreed Sunday on the two of them taking the top two posts on the council of guerrilla and government representatives, and an indefinite extension of the ceasefire.

Such an extension, they agreed, would help provide a better climate for peace talks on ending the 12-year-old Cambodian war.

The ceasefire began May 1 and originally was scheduled to last at least until the end of the current Jakarta peace talks. It had been proposed in April by France, Indonesia and the U.N. secretary general, the main brokers in the Cambodian peace process.

Sihanouk told reporters after a courtesy call on Indonesian President Suharto.

He said he and Hun Sen have built a good basis for future efforts to resolve the Cambodian problem. He did not elaborate.

Hun Sen's forces and also because they think they will eventually win the war."

Sihanouk added, "I regret this attitude because the extension of ceasefire is more beneficial to Cambodia."

Aside from the Communist Khmer Rouge, the resistance includes Sihanouk's own faction and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front. Both are non-Communist.

"Now I rely on the skill of Indonesia's Foreign Minister Ali Alatas to try to narrow down the gap between the Khmer Rouge and the non-Khmer Rouge leadership," Sihanouk told reporters after a courtesy call on Indonesian President Suharto.

He said he and Hun Sen have built a good basis for future efforts to resolve the Cambodian problem. He did not elaborate.

Rights abuses rampant in post-Tiananmen China — Amnesty

HONG KONG (R) — Summary executions, torture of prisoners, arbitrary arrests and unfair trials have increased sharply in China since the crackdown on pro-democracy protests in Peking two years ago, Amnesty International says.

"The international community's criticism of China's human rights record has become muted but the abuses themselves have never stopped," the London-based human rights organization said in its latest report released Tuesday.

Hundreds of pro-democracy activists from 1989 were detained for months or even over a year before being charged and possibly thousands more were still languishing in prisons and detention centres now, according to the report.

Several hundred believed to have been secretly executed shortly after June 1989, it said.

Despite relatively light sentences given to several student leaders earlier this year which were widely publicised, Amnesty said a continuing crackdown on pro-democracy activists had led to some of the harshest sentences seen in recent years.

"It's not uncommon for people out of the spotlight — ordinary activists or those tried outside Peking — to be jailed for 10 to 20

years, sometimes simply for making dissident speeches," the report said.

It cited the example of Chen Lantao, sentenced in northern Shandong province to 16 years in prison for joining the 1989 protests.

China's human rights record has been criticised by U.S. congressmen who want to make renewal of the preferential trade status Washington accords Peking conditional on human rights improvements.

The Amnesty report said torture of prisoners, usually to extract pre-trial confessions, had increased in recent years.

Methods included severe beatings, shocks with electric batons and the use of handcuffs, shackles or ropes in positions intended to inflict pain.

More common were deprivations of sleep or food, exposure to cold and being made to adopt exhausting physical postures, the report said.

"Those people who do actually get to the courtroom have faced a trial system so seriously flawed that it comes nowhere near international standards," Amnesty said.

Defendants often cannot choose their lawyers, they are not given enough time to prepare their defence and the verdict is

often decided beforehand."

The report also expressed concern about a dramatic rise in the number of executions, particularly in connection with anti-crime campaigns launched since 1989.

Last year, more than 750 people were executed, the highest number since 1983.

Amnesty said it had the names of more than 50 people who were sentenced to death since June 1989 for crimes allegedly committed during the protests, but the number of those secretly executed was believed to be far higher.

According to some sources, several hundred people were secretly executed in various places within or near the capital between June and August 1989," the report said.

More than 40 crimes, including theft, smuggling and embezzlement, are punishable by death in China. Many are publicly humiliated at mass rallies before being executed.

"In some cities, groups of prisoners have also been paraded through the streets on the back of open lorries, with their arms tightly bound behind their backs, just before being taken to the execution ground."

Amnesty described this as cruel and degrading treatment prohibited under the United Nations Convention against torture which China signed in 1988.

Amnesty described this as cruel and degrading treatment prohibited under the United Nations Convention against torture which China signed in 1988.

Troops kill 3 IRA members in N. Ireland

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — Special Air Service soldiers shot dead three members of the IRA during an undercover operation Monday, British news reports said.

Police would say only that three men, believed to be connected with the Irish Republican Army, were found dead in a burned out car after an encounter with an army patrol in the village of Coagh, 45 kilometres west of Belfast.

Sinn Fein, the IRA's legal political wing, identified the dead men as Peter Ryan, Tony Dornin and Lawrence McNally.

Police said they were not involved in the operation but said uniformed soldiers fired the shots. Security sources said an SAS unit had staked out the ambush spot, Press Association, the British domestic news agency.

Police said they were not involved in the operation but said uniformed soldiers fired the shots. Security sources said an SAS unit had staked out the ambush spot, Press Association.

The SAS, created during the World War II, is made up of highly trained troops.

British news reports said the three men were on their way to mount an attack on Protestant workmen in the village when they were intercepted by the SAS troops. Two rifles were found beside the charred remains of the stolen car, Press Association reported.

The car caught fire when one of the bullets hit the gas tank, news reports said.

A woman who lives nearby said she heard the shooting.

"It seemed to go on and on. It was terrible and when I went outside I could see the smoke coming from the car," she said.

In other violence Monday, a spokesman for the British army said there was a large explosion at the Bally Cassidy Sawmills next to the army base at St. Angelo Airfield, 110 kilometres west of Belfast.

There were no reports of any injuries at the base, used for helicopter patrols, the army spokesman said. But the blast was heard over a wide area and shattered windows in homes several hundred yards from the base.

Press Association reported that terrorists drove a truck into the Sawmills, but it was not known if mortars were fired from the truck or if explosives were concealed inside it.

The news agency said the driver of the truck escaped in an accompanying car.

Policemen said a family living near the base was held captive during the night by the armed men. The armed men left early Monday in the family's car, which was later found burned out a few miles from the Sawmills, police said.

The alleged shooting came less than 24 hours after a Northern Ireland civil servant was seriously injured by a bomb placed underneath her car. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the bombing but a police spokesman said the Irish Republican Army (IRA) was a prime suspect.

On Saturday, the IRA claimed responsibility for a truck-bombing that killed three soldiers, injured 11 others and demolished an Ulster Defence Regiment base. It is a locally recruited regiment of 6,000 soldiers.

The allegation of an East Bloc plot was made by the Metropolitans, the Turk convicted of shooting the Pope. He is serving a life sentence in an Italian prison for the shooting of the Pope in St. Peter's Square on May 13, 1981.

If the plot theory is true, it is likely that the Metropolitans might kill him after the shooting and contacted the CIA, the U.S. intelligence agency, the newspaper said Karadzhov re-counted.

The newspaper said the tape was obtained by the Metropolitans before the shooting, which seriously wounded the Pope.

Interest in the plot theory has been renewed by the work in Sofia of a U.S. commission to investigate the shooting. Bulgaria has promised to cooperate with the commission and Italy, which reopened the case several years ago.

By late on the night of June 3, 1989, armoured troop carriers smashed through barriers erected by Peking residents and thousands of troops backed by tanks fired wildly as they carved their way through angry crowds in the streets around Tiananmen Square.

Early in the morning of June 4 the army drove out the last protesters still camped on Tiananmen Square, ending the seven-week long movement.

The government, in its official history of what it calls the 1989 turmoil, says 3,000 civilians were wounded in the assault and more than 200, including 36 college students, killed.

Dissidents, diplomats and eyewitnesses say the death toll was much higher, with possibly thousands killed.

Tight security and severe warnings have kept Peking's universities quiet around the anniversary this year.

Hawke defeats Keating in leadership fight

CANBERRA (R) — Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke Monday beat off a challenge for power by his treasurer Paul Keating and will stay at the helm of a government he has led for more than eight years.

Hawke promptly quit his post as